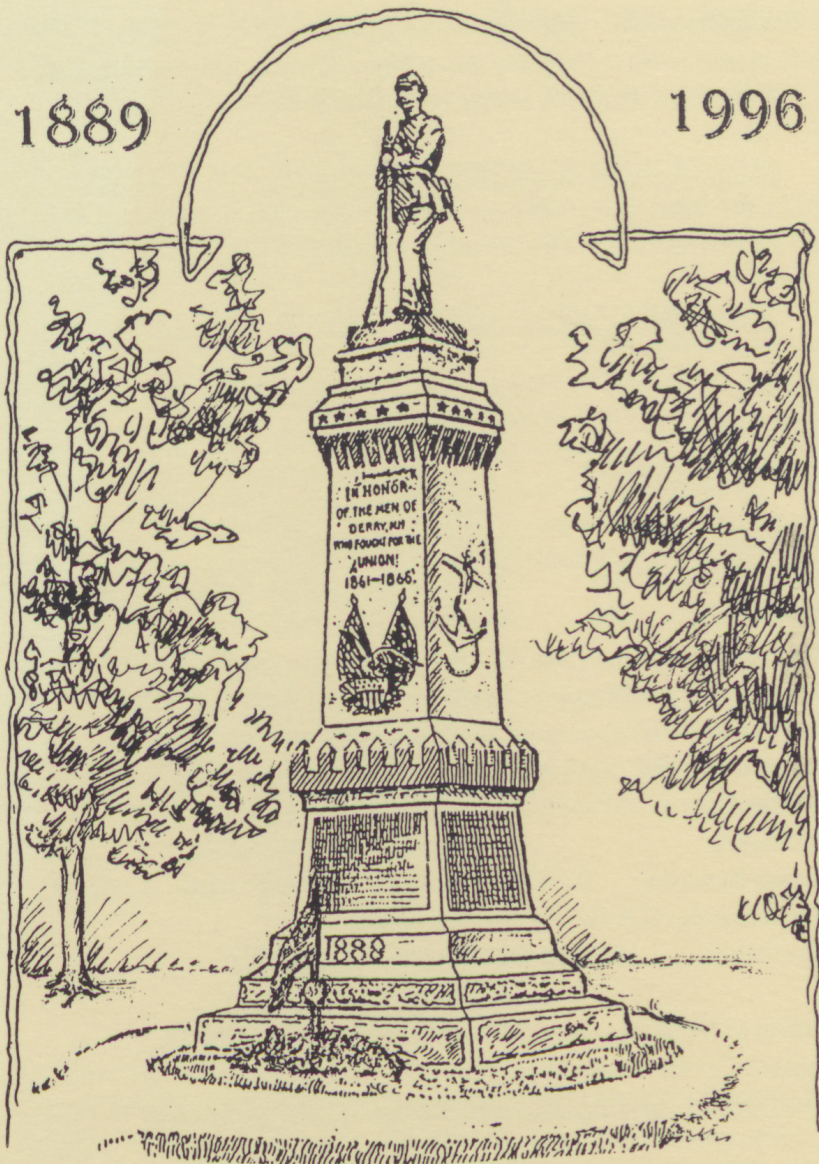


1889

1996



REDEDICATION OF DERRY'S SOLDIERS MONUMENT

SCHEDULE OF DAYS EVENTS -- JULY 27, 1996

All events to be held in the immediate vicinity of the monument,
at the First Parish Church, East Derry Road, East Derry.

MUSTER OF TROOPS (FIFTH NH) 9:00 - 10:45

The Fifth New Hampshire Volunteers (5NH) will encamp in back of the Taylor Library, offering a glimpse into the reality of Union camp life.

REDEDICATION CEREMONY 11:00 - 12:00

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| • Welcome | Steve Parry, East Derry Improvement Soc. |
| • Invocation | Rev. Alice Ling, First Parish Church |
| • Introductory Remarks | Nathan L. Fernald, Derry American Legion
Eugene A. Pawlik, Derry VFW |
| • Proclamation | Derry Town Council |
| • Historical Reflections | Rebecca Rutter, Derry Heritage Commission |
| • The Civil War Soldier | Paul Levasseur, Fifth NH Volunteers |
| • Details of Service | Richard Woodbury, Sons of Union Veterans |
| • Reading of the names | Paul Levasseur, Fifth NH Volunteers |
| • Musket Salute | Fifth New Hampshire Volunteers |
| • "Some Gave All" | Jimmy Lehoux, Rivier College Music Minist. |
| • Rededication | Sons of Union Veterans, et al. |
| • Rifle Salute | American Legion Honor Guard |
| • Closing Remarks | Nathan L. Fernald and Eugene A. Pawlik |
| • "God Bless the U.S.A." | Lloyd Owens |
| • Benediction | Fr. Joseph Lorenzo, OFM
St. Thomas Aquinas |
| • Ringing of the bells | Dan Allen, First Parish Church |

POST-CEREMONY EVENTS 12:00 - 2:00 PM

- Light refreshments -- Auxiliaries of Derry's VFW and American Legion.
- Re-enactment of 1889 photo -- 5NH & Ladies of the 5NH.
- Drills, "living history" displays, & continued encampment -- 5NH.
- Civil War-era lawn games -- Ladies of the 5NH.

FRONT COVER by Pat Verani, adapted from an etching made for the *Derry News* in 1889 to illustrate their story of the monument's original dedication.

HISTORY OF DERRY'S SOLDIERS' MONUMENT

The Soldiers' Monument was erected in 1889 in honor of the 152¹ Derry men who left home to fight for the Union, and the twenty-four of them who never returned. The statue owes its existence to the vision and the generosity of Miss Emma Taylor, noted local philanthropist and long-time principal of Adams Female Academy. Upon her death in December of 1886, Miss Taylor left \$1,000 to be used in erecting a memorial to the men of Derry who had fought in what was then called the "war of the rebellion." She specified that the monument was to be erected on the small town common in front of the First Parish Church. Her bequest was contingent upon the town's supplying the remaining requisite funds. In March of 1888, the town did so, voting to appropriate \$2,000 to the effort and promptly appointing the board of selectman to serve as a monument committee. Several months and thirteen meetings later, having inspected and debated twenty-four different designs, the committee finally settled upon the design that had been submitted by Frederick & Field of Salem, Massachusetts.

Boston artist S.J. O'Kelly sculpted a bronze statue of a Union soldier to sit atop the monument's tall pedestal of blue Quincy granite. 19th century artisans mounted a bronze name-plaque on each face of the pedestal, and, on the front face, placed a relief-plaque of an eagle, laurel, and shield. Above the eagle, these words of dedication were inscribed in the granite:

**IN HONOR OF THE MEN OF
DERRY, N.H.
WHO FOUGHT FOR THE UNION
1861-1865.**

In October of 1889, twenty-four years after the nation's bloodiest war had drawn to a close, this monument to Derry's soldiers was formally dedicated by the New Hampshire Department of the Grand Army of the Republic. In reporting on the dedication, *The Derry News* said of the town's new memorial: "The whole forms a very pleasing and shapely monument, creditable to the patriotic donors ... A gentleman from Boston, who is acquainted with the work, said the monument was the best for the amount of money expended that he had ever seen."

¹On this day of rededication, the name of George Thom is added to the monument, bringing the total number of those honored to 153.

DERRY WAR MEMORIALS RESTORATION COMMITTEE

In January of 1995, under the leadership of Ben Gurley, Derry's American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Disabled American Veterans joined ranks to preserve the memorials honoring the service of Derry's own. The veterans were assisted in their efforts by the Derry Heritage Commission. Thanks to the generous donations of the town's citizens and businesses, the committee restored McGregor Park's granite and bronze tablets in July of 1995. And in June of this year, with additional funding from the Town of Derry, the Soldiers' Monument also received the care that it needed. Funds are still required for perpetual maintenance. Donations are greatly appreciated, and may be sent to: Derry War Memorial Restoration Fund, c/o Fleet Bank, 20 East Broadway, Derry, NH, 03038.

FIFTH NEW HAMPSHIRE VOLUNTEERS

The Fifth New Hampshire is a non-profit historical society, representing New Hampshire's premier Infantry Regiment of the Civil War. Through ongoing programs and special events such as today's encampment, the 5NH strives to accurately portray the Civil War soldier for the education and enrichment of the public. For more information, please write to: Fifth NH, P.O. Box 982, Londonderry, NH, 03053, or visit their web-site at: <http://www.mv.com/ipusers/n33db/fifth.html>

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

Organized in 1881, the SUVCW and its ladies' auxiliary serve as today's representatives of the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.). Its members are dedicated to preserving the memory of the G.A.R., of President Lincoln, and of the men who fought to keep our Republic unified and whole. For more information, please write to Douglass Knight, P.O. Box 955, Salem, NH, 03079, or visit the national SUVCW web-site at suvchw.org on the world-wide web.

EAST DERRY IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY

The EDIS was formed in 1902 to foster civic betterment in the hamlet of East Derry, which is now the Upper Village National Historic District. In addition to hosting various community activities such as the annual Spring and Autumn Cleanup Days and walking tours of the historic district, the Society manages the day to day operations of the Upper Village Hall. For more information, please write to the Society at: PO Box 131, East Derry, NH, 03041.

DERRY HERITAGE COMMISSION

Appointed by the Town Council, this five member board works to preserve Derry's historical resources and to enhance appreciation of that history. For more information, please write to the Derry Heritage Commission at Town Hall, 48 East Broadway, Derry, NH 03038.